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EARLY RECOLLECTIONS OF JOHN P. HEDGES.

[These "Recollections," originally published in the *Ft. Wayne Sentinel*, about 1875, have been sent us by Mr. J. M. Stouder, of Ft. Wayne, who copied the matter from an old scrapbook belonging to Mr. L. P. Stapleford, of the same city. Mr. Stapleford secured the reminiscences from Mr. Hedges when in his eighty-fifth year.—EDITOR.]

THE relater arrived at Fort Meigs in the spring of the year 1812, being then about twenty-two years of age. I visited Fort Wayne for the purpose of estimating the amount of provision then in the Fort Wayne, by order of General John H. Piatt, commissary-general of the Eighth military district, with whom I was chief clerk. I was accompanied to Fort Wayne by a Shawnee Indian as guide. I remained at the fort some two or three days, merely long enough to take a complete estimate of what provisions remained in the fort. From there I went to Piqua, Dayton, and finally to Cincinnati, which place contained a population of about 2,500 inhabitants. At these places I provisioned with a sufficient quantity of flour, bacon, whiskey, salt, etc., and also a lot of cattle. The cattle, I remember very distinctly, were purchased from a German by the name of George Kountz, whose cattle were all branded with the letters "G. K." After leaving Cincinnati I passed through Piqua and Dayton and finally reached Fort Wayne on the 10th day of September, 1812, in company with the army, consisting of about three regiments under the command of Generals Harrison and Winchester, who were sent to Fort Wayne to relieve the garrison, which was then under a state of siege by the Indians. He found the troops, who for some time had been living on half rations, nearly destitute, and but for our timely arrival could not have held out much longer. The army remained at the fort for several days, and during that period destroyed several Indian villages in the vicinity. One village known as "Little Turtle" village, was located on Eel river, near Heller's Corners. A village was also destroyed near the mouth of Cedar creek, now near Cedarville. There was another village near the forks of the Wabash river, known as the "Charles Consto" village, named after a French half-breed. After remaining at Fort

Wayne for some time, the troops with whom I encamped marched down the Maumee river to the mouth of Bear creek, at a point about one mile from Defiance, which place was known as Camp No. 1. The next encampment was at the mouth of the Auglaize river, on a beautiful summit on the north bank of the Maumee river, opposite Defiance, called Camp No. 2. The next movement was made on Flat Rock, known in French as "Pede de Pleu," some six miles below Defiance. The army remained there until the following January, when it moved on to Fort Meigs, remaining there several days. It then went to the river Raisin, some thirty miles from St. Mary's where the troops met a terrible defeat. Nearly the entire army was massacred by the troops under the command of the British general, Proctor, and the Indian chief, Tecumseh. I remember well that terrible disaster. Many a poor straggling soldier reached our camp nearly worn out with the fatigue of that fatal day.

After this massacre my position compelled me to visit different government points in my district, embracing Erie, Pennsylvania, Fort Wayne, Detroit, Michigan, and Lexington and Frankfort, Kentucky.

Quite a number of our troops were stationed in Canada, at a point called Malden, under Lieutenant-Colonel Butler, of Kentucky. I remained in Canada for four or five months—as long as the troops remained there—and was present at the Battle of the Thames, where General Proctor was defeated and the noted Indian warrior Tecumseh was killed. I saw Tecumseh's remains, and saw the fatal bullet hole. His mortal wound was on the left side—directly through the heart—and it was so small that a soldier tried to penetrate it with his little finger but found it impossible to do so. There were several other wounds in different parts of his body, some of which would have proved fatal. Tecumseh was distinguished by a real silk sash wound about his waist, which no doubt had been procured from some British officer, as such an article in those days was real costly. After the battle, I was informed that the soldiers mutilated the body of Tecumseh, by cutting several strips of his skin for the purpose of using as razor strops. Whether true or not, it was charged by a half-bred Indian interpreter by the name of Anthony Shaw, who was inclined to take considerable umbrage

at that kind of warfare, comparing it to that of savages. It has been the general impression that Tecumseh was killed by Colonel Johnson. Such is erroneous. There is no doubt that he met his death by the hand of a private soldier by the name of King, a member of Captain Fairfield's company of Kentucky militia.

REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER.

[Special from Washington, D. C., December 11, 1912, to *The Indianapolis News*.]

MRS. ELIZABETH R. TRON, of Madison, Ind., historian of the John Paul Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, has asked the quartermaster-general of the army to erect a marker over the grave of Bezaleel Maxwell, a revolutionary soldier, in Hanover cemetery, near Madison. She points out that since its organization, the John Paul Chapter has received twenty markers from the government for the graves of the score of revolutionary soldiers that are buried in Jefferson county.

The records at the war department show that Maxwell was born in Albemarle county, Virginia, on December 20, 1751, and died in Jefferson county, Indiana, on January 9, 1828. As a member of Captain Doack's military company that was organized in 1774, Maxwell enlisted in the Continental army under General Anderson, and was in the battle of Mt. Pleasant. He continued in the war until its close and was present at the surrender of Yorktown.

Dr. Allison Maxwell, of Indianapolis; Mrs. Mellette, of Bloomington; the Dunn family in Indiana; the Wiley family, of which Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, of pure food fame, is a member, and Mrs. Laura A. Blaine, of Springfield, Mo., are descendants of Bezaleel Maxwell.

Representative Korbly, a former resident of Madison, called at the war department to-day to urge that the marker be placed at the head of the grave of the soldier as soon as possible.